IN THE CLAIMS:

A status of all the claims of the present Application is presented below:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A computing device, comprising:

a base;

at least one removable center module disposed on and coupled to the base;

a lid; and

a hinge structure having a clutch member coupling the base and the lid, the hinge structure comprises at least one biasing member operable to exert a force on the clutch member vertically outwardly from the base, the clutch member having a variable height operable to enable the lid to close over the at least one removable center module.

2. **(Original)** The computing device, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the hinge structure is further operable to enable the lid to close over the base with the at least one removable center module removed from the base.

3. **(Previously presented)** The computing device, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the clutch member is operable to protrude above and beyond the base at varying heights.

4. **(Original)** The computing device, as set forth in claim 3, further comprising at least one lock button having a locking nib operable to releaseably engage at least one notch defined in the clutch member.

5. **(Previously presented)** The computing device, as set forth in claim 1, the clutch member operable to receive a lock button operable to fasten the clutch member in one of a number of heights protruding above and beyond the base.

6. **(Canceled)**

7. **(Currently Amended)** The computing device, as set forth in claim 1 **[[6]]**, wherein the hinge structure further comprises at least one second biasing member operable to exert a force on the at least one lock button toward the clutch member.

8. **(Original)** The computing device, as set forth in claim 4, wherein an opening is defined in the base to enable a user to manipulate the at least one lock button toward and away from the clutch member.

9. **(Original)** The computing device, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the hinge structure rotatively couples the lid to the base.

10. **(Original)** The computing device, as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a plurality of electrical components housed in the base, and the at least one removable center module is electrically connectable to the plurality of electrical components.

11. **(Original)** The computing device, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the lid comprises a display screen.

12. **(Original)** The computing device, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the at least one removable center module comprises:

first center module operable to be disposed on and releaseably coupled to the base;

second center module operable to be disposed n and releaseable coupled to the first center module; and

the hinge structure enabling the lid to close over the second center module.

13. **(Currently Amended)** A device, comprising:

first and second portions;

at lease one removable center module disposed on and coupled to the second portion; and

a hinge structure having a clutch member coupling the first and second portions, the hinge structure comprising at least one biasing member operable to exert a force on the clutch

member vertically outwardly from the second portion, the clutch member having a variable height operable to enable the first portion to close over at least one removable center module.

14-16. **(Canceled)**

17. **(Currently Amended)** The device, as set forth in claim 13 **[[**16**]]**, wherein the hinge structure comprises at least one lock button having a locking nib operable to engage at least one notch defined in the clutch member for releaseably locking the clutch member disposed vertically in the second portion.

18. **(Original)** The device, as set forth in claim 17, wherein the hinge structure further comprises at least one second biasing member operable to exert a force on the at least one lock button toward the clutch member.

19. **(Previously presented)** The device, as set forth in claim 17, wherein an opening is defined in the second portion to enable a user to manipulate the at least one lock button toward and away from the clutch member.

20. **(Currently Amended)** A computing device, comprising:

a base adapted to receive a plurality of different size removable center modules; ~~and~~

a hinge structure coupling a lid to the base, the hinge structure adapted to accommodate the different sizes of removable center modules and enable closure of the lid relative to the base; and

at least one biasing member operable to exert a force on a clutch member of the hinge structure vertically outwardly from the base.

21. **(Previously presented)** The device, as set forth in claim 20, wherein the hinge structure comprises a clutch member adapted to protrude above and beyond the base at varying heights.

22. **(Previously presented)** The device, as set forth in claim 21, further comprising at least one lock button having a locking nib operable to releaseably engage at least one notch defined in the clutch member.

23. **(Previously presented)** The device, as set forth in claim 20, wherein the hinge structure comprises a clutch member operable to receive a lock button to fasten the clutch member in one of a number of heights protruding above and beyond the base.

24. **(Canceled)**

25. **(Previously presented)** The device, as set forth in claim 20, wherein the hinge structure rotatively couples the lid to the base.

26. **(New)** A device, comprising:

first and second portions;

at lease one removable center module disposed on and coupled to the second portion; and

a hinge structure having a clutch member coupling the first and second portions, the clutch member disposed in the second portion and having a variable height operable to enable the first portion to close over at least one removable center module.

27. **(New)** The device, as set forth in claim 26, wherein the clutch member is operable to receive a lock button operable to fasten the clutch member in one of a plurality of different heights protruding above and beyond the second portion.